

CLAIMS:

1. Method for processing a print job by at least a first and a second print shop which are geographically distributed whereby:
 - a) said print shops are connected via a computer network;
 - 5 b) each print shop forwards a production schedule to a central repository connected to said computer network, said production schedule comprising data allowing a graphical representation of the respective production schedule;
 - 10 c) said first print shop lacking sufficient printing capacity for processing said print job accesses the production schedule of said second print shop via said central repository;
 - d) said first print shop displays the production schedule of said second print shop; and
 - 15 e) said first print shop transfers at least part of said print job to said second print shop, if spare printing capacity is indicated in the displayed production schedule of said second print shop.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said production schedule data, which are suitable for a storage in the central repository, are created as a digitized photograph from a hard copy of the production schedule.
- 20 3. A method according to claim 1, wherein said production schedule data, which are suitable for a storage in the central repository, are created by a computer-aided scheduling tool.
4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the production schedule is delivered from the central repository to the first print shop only in case
25 that the first print shop satisfies access conditions which are defined by the second print shop.
5. A method according to claim 1, wherein the said first print shop only displays production schedules of second print shops which are located within a pre-defined geographical region.

6. A method according to claim 1, wherein the said first print shop only displays production schedules of second print shops which belong to a pre-defined group of preferred print shops.